

Amendment Dated 04/04/05
Response to Office Action Dated 02/04/05

Application No. 09/868,693
Attorney Docket No. 005222.000149

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending with the response to this Office Action. Claims 1-18 stand rejected.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the "Request for Information." The Applicant also thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the objections to the Information Disclosure Statement, the drawings, the specification, and the abstract. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the double patenting rejection of claims 1 and 10 related to U.S. Patent No. 6,016,486 and for accepting the corresponding filed terminal disclaimer. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the rejections of claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(f) and (g), the rejections of claim 1 under U.S.C. 112, and the rejections of claims 1-9 under U.S.C. 101.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for accepting the amended title "**A GOAL BASED SYSTEM UTILIZING A SPREADSHEET ARCHITECTURE**".

Typographical Errors

The Applicant has amended claim 1 to identify the third step as "(c)". The Office Action requests clarification of the amendment. In the previous response, the Applicant did not include the lettered identification of the steps as included in the patent application as originally filed. The Applicant has included the lettered identifications in this paper.

Regarding claim 10, the Applicant did not include the lettered identification of the steps as included in the patent application as originally filed. The Applicant has included the lettered identifications in this paper.

Double Patenting

Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,782,374 (application 09/219,478). The Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in a separate paper. The Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1 and 10.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 97/44766 (Cook). Regarding claim 1, Cook does not teach the feature of "**evaluating progress toward the goal and providing feedback** that further motivates accomplishment of the goal based on

Amendment Dated 04/04/05
Response to Office Action Dated 02/04/05

Application No. 09/868,693
Attorney Docket No. 005222.000149

information contained in the spreadsheet data structure.” (Emphasis added.) The Office Action alleges that Cook anticipates “(c) evaluating progress toward the goal and providing feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal based on information contained in the spreadsheet data structure (Cook, p 10, l 28-31; p 8, l 8-13; p 11, l 32-33) (EN: receiving information in a computerized implementation implies a processor, memory and controlling logic).” Cook does teach (Page 8, lines 8-13. Emphasis added.):

The diverse behaviors include **encouragement and feedback**, providing meta-cognitive help on ongoing instruction, managing or controlling and individualizing computer based instruction to the student’s learning modes, and assistance with assignment management.

and (Page 10, lines 24-31. Emphasis added.):

A further important object of this invention is to utilize augmented computer-assisted instruction materials which present to students a variety of interactive, adaptive, and self-paced computer-assisted instruction and homework materials in a manner which informs the agent of a **student’s progress** and performance and which permits the agent to manage or control the materials to the student’s pedagogic characteristics.

and (Page 11, lines 32-33. Emphasis added.):

In an embodiment, this tool can be consulted by the student to view **schedules**.

The above teachings of Cook merely teach viewing a schedule of assigned student activities. As taught and suggested by Cook, the schedule remains the same, regardless of the progress of the student. Moreover, Cook does not provide any nexus between “encouragement and feedback” and schedules or any spreadsheet data structure. Moreover, Cook fails to provide any nexus between “a student’s progress” and schedules or any spreadsheet data structure. Both “encouragement and feedback” and “a student’s progress,” as taught by Cook, appear to be independent of a schedule or any spreadsheet data structure. Thus, Cook does not teach or even suggest the feature of “evaluating progress toward the goal and providing feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal based on information contained in the spreadsheet data structure” and does not anticipate claim 1.

Similarly, claim 10 includes the feature of “logic that evaluates progress toward a goal and providing feedback that further motivates accomplishment of the goal based on information contained in the spreadsheet data structure.” Claim 10 is not anticipated by Cook for at least the above reasons. Claims 2-9 and 11-18 ultimately depend from claims 1 and 10 and are not anticipated for at least the above reasons. The Applicant requests reconsideration of claims 1-18.

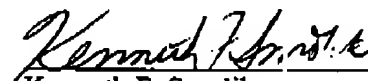
Amendment Dated 04/04/05
Response to Office Action Dated 02/04/05

Application No. 09/868,693
Attorney Docket No. 005222.000149

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and
a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 4, 2005


Kenneth F. Smolik
Registration No. 44,344
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
10 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, IL 60606-7407
Telephone: 312-463-5000
Facsimile: 312-463-5001